

I. AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) An automated database management method for a database comprising one or more database objects, the method comprising:
 - associating management criteria with the database to manage database objects;
 - collecting statistics relating to operation of the database;
 - determining characteristics of the database objects based on the collected statistics;
 - determining actions to be performed on one or more database objects to modify the one or more database objects based on the management criteria and the determined characteristics of the database objects;
 - modifying the one or more database objects by performing the actions on the database objects;
 - monitoring results of modifying the database objects; and
 - reconfiguring the management criteria associated with the database based on the results of modifying the database objects;
 - ~~collecting statistics relating to operation of the database; and~~
 - ~~determining characteristics of the database objects.~~
2. (Previously Presented) The database management method of claim 1, further comprising:
 - automatically determining a schedule to perform the actions on the database objects,
 - wherein the performing the actions on the database objects comprises performing the actions on the database objects based on the schedule.

3. (Original) The database management method of claim 2, wherein the performing the actions on the database objects based on the schedule comprises automatically performing the actions on the database objects based on the schedule.
4. (Original) The database management method of claim 1, further comprising:
confirming the performing the actions on the database objects.
5. (Cancelled)
6. (Previously Presented) The database management method of claim 1, wherein the determining the characteristics of the database objects comprises automatically determining the characteristics of the database objects.
7. (Cancelled)
8. (Currently Amended) The database management method of claim [[7]] 1, wherein the determining the actions to be performed on the database objects based on the characteristics of the database objects comprises automatically determining the actions to be performed on the database objects based on the characteristics of the database objects.
9. (Previously Presented) The database management method of claim 1, wherein the statistics comprise object-level statistics.
10. (Previously Presented) The database management method of claim 1, wherein the statistics comprise activity-level statistics.
11. (Cancelled)

12. (Previously Presented) The database management method of claim 1, wherein the determining the characteristics of the database objects comprises determining the characteristics of the database objects using one or more policies in the management criteria.
13. (Previously Presented) The database management method of claim 1, wherein the determining the characteristics of the database objects comprises determining the characteristics of the database objects using one or more definitions in the management criteria.
14. (Previously Presented) The database management method of claim 1, further comprising: customizing one or more definitions in the management criteria.
15. (Previously Presented) The database management method of claim 1, further comprising: customizing one or more policies in the management criteria.

16. (Currently Amended) A program storage device comprising program instructions stored thereon, wherein the program instructions are computer-executable to cause a programmable control device to implement:

associating management criteria with a database to manage database objects of the database;

collecting statistics relating to operation of the database;

determining characteristics of the database objects based on the collected statistics;

determining actions to be performed on one or more of the database objects to modify the one or more database objects based on the management criteria and the

determined characteristics of the database objects;

modifying the one or more database objects by performing the actions on the database objects;

monitoring results of modifying the database objects; and

reconfiguring the management criteria associated with the database based on the results of modifying the database objects;

~~collecting statistics relating to operation of the database; and~~

~~determining characteristics of the database objects.~~

17. (Previously Presented) The program storage device of claim 16, wherein the program instructions are further computer-executable to implement:

automatically determining a schedule to perform the actions on the database objects, wherein the performing the actions on the database objects comprises performing the actions on the database objects based on the schedule.

18. (Previously Presented) The program storage device of claim 17, wherein the performing the actions on the database objects based on the schedule comprises automatically performing the actions on the database objects based on the schedule.

19. (Previously Presented) The program storage device of claim 16, wherein the program instructions are further computer-executable to implement:
confirming the performing the actions on the database objects.
20. (Cancelled)
21. (Previously Presented) The program storage device of claim 16, wherein the determining the characteristics of the database objects comprises automatically determining the characteristics of the database objects.
22. (Cancelled)
23. (Currently Amended) The program storage device of claim ~~22~~ 16, wherein the determining the actions to be performed on the database objects based on the characteristics of the database objects comprises automatically determining the actions to be performed on the database objects based on the characteristics of the database objects.
24. (Previously Presented) The program storage device of claim 16, wherein the statistics comprise object-level statistics.
25. (Previously Presented) The program storage device of claim 16, wherein the statistics comprise activity-level statistics.
26. (Cancelled)
27. (Previously Presented) The program storage device of claim 16, wherein the determining the characteristics of the database objects comprises determining the characteristics of the database objects using one or more policies in the management criteria.

28. (Previously Presented) The program storage device of claim 16, wherein the determining the characteristics of the database objects comprises determining the characteristics of the database objects using one or more definitions in the management criteria.

29. (Previously Presented) The program storage device of claim 16, wherein the program instructions are further computer-executable to implement:
customizing one or more definitions in the management criteria.

30. (Previously Presented) The program storage device of claim 16, wherein the program instructions are further computer-executable to implement: customizing one or more policies in the management criteria.

31. (Currently Amended) A database management system comprising:
- a CPU;
 - a database coupled to the CPU, wherein the database comprises one or more database objects; and
 - a memory coupled to the CPU, wherein the memory stores program instructions which are executable by the CPU to:
 - associate management criteria with the database to manage database objects;
 - ~~collect statistics relating to operation of the database;~~
 - ~~determine characteristics of the database objects based on the collected statistics;~~
 - determine actions to be performed on the database objects to modify the database objects based on the management criteria and the determined characteristics of the database objects;
 - modify the database objects by performing the actions on the database objects;
 - monitor results of modifying the database objects; and
 - reconfigure the management criteria associated with the database based on the results of modifying the database objects;
 - ~~collect statistics relating to operation of the database; and~~
 - ~~determine characteristics of the database objects.~~
32. (Previously Presented) The database management system of claim 31, wherein the program instructions are further executable by the CPU to:
- automatically determine a schedule to perform the actions on the database objects,
 - wherein in performing the actions on the database objects, the program instructions are further executable by the CPU to perform the actions on the database objects based on the schedule.

33. (Original) The database management system of claim 32, wherein in performing the actions on the database objects based on the schedule, the program instructions are further executable by the CPU to automatically perform the actions on the database objects based on the schedule.

34. (Original) The database management system of claim 31, wherein the program instructions are further executable by the CPU to:
confirm the performing the actions on the database objects.

35. (Cancelled)

36. (Previously Presented) The database management system of claim 31, wherein in determining the characteristics of the database objects, the program instructions are further executable by the CPU to automatically determine the characteristics of the database objects.

37. (Cancelled)

38. (Currently Amended) The database management system of claim ~~37~~ 31, wherein in determining the actions to be performed on the database objects based on the characteristics of the database objects, the program instructions are further executable by the CPU to automatically determine the actions to be performed on the database objects based on the characteristics of the database objects.

39. (Previously Presented) The database management system of claim 31, wherein the statistics comprise object-level statistics.

40. (Previously Presented) The database management system of claim 31, wherein the statistics comprise activity-level statistics.

41. (Cancelled)

42. (Previously Presented) The database management system of claim 31, wherein in determining the characteristics of the database objects, the program instructions are further executable by the CPU to determine the characteristics of the database objects using one or more policies in the management criteria.

43. (Previously Presented) The database management system of claim 31, wherein in determining the characteristics of the database objects, the program instructions are further executable by the CPU to determine the characteristics of the database objects using one or more definitions in the management criteria.

44. (Previously Presented) The database management system of claim 31, wherein the program instructions are further executable by the CPU to:
customize one or more definitions in the management criteria.

45. (Previously Presented) The database management system of claim 31, wherein the program instructions are further executable by the CPU to: customize one or more policies in the management criteria.